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(c) whether there is any proposal to put up a permanent structure there to divert water into the channel; and

(d) if so, what it is and at what stage it is?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer to clause (a) is in the negative.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 78 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 2nd August 1933.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the temporary structure there, is giving trouble often?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—"I think it is quite likely; probably it has constantly to be repaired, as korambus generally have to be."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have got any proposal to construct a fairly permanent structure there?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—"No, Sir."

Landlord and Tenant

Motion for the consideration of the Madras Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill.

* 316 Q.—Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why he refrained from making the motion for the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on the Madras Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill on the 30th January last; and

(b) what his present reasons are for bringing forward the same motion now?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the speech of the hon. the Member for Revenue at pages 471–472 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, dated the 30th January 1933, in connexion with the motion.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member on the 30th October, when moving that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Public Service

Inadmissibility of acting allowance to permanent lower division clerks acting in the upper division.

* 317 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why the officiating allowance for a permanent lower division clerk in the Secretariat departments for his duties as upper division clerk has been withdrawn;

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that lower division and upper division posts are treated as coming under one class for purposes of recruitment;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that, in the case of an acting clerk, recruited to the lower division and made to do drafting work, the officiating allowance is allowed; and

(*d*) if so, why a permanent lower division clerk has been debarred from drawing officiating allowance while an acting clerk is given the allowance?

A.—(*a*) The officiating allowance was disallowed from 1st January 1924 as it was considered by the Government that the duties and responsibilities of an upper division clerk were not so materially different from those of a lower division clerk as to justify its grant under Fundamental Rule 30.

(*b*) Under the Madras Ministerial Service Rules direct recruitment may be to the upper or the lower division but in practice it is mostly to the lower division.

(*c*) & (*d*) Under the General Rules relating to the Subordinate Services an acting clerk in the lower division is, on appointment to the upper division, entitled to the minimum pay in the scale of the upper division clerk, but a permanent clerk in the lower division acting in the upper division is not entitled to increased pay for the reason stated in answer to clause (*a*) of the question.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*d*), may I know whether the Government realize that an acting clerk in the lower division who acts in the upper division is entitled to more remuneration than a permanent lower division clerk? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" The question is under consideration."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the advisability of promoting a larger percentage of lower division clerks to the upper division? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I will consider the suggestion."

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" May I know if the Government are aware that better treatment is given to acting clerks in the matter of the higher scale of pay than to permanent persons? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" If the hon. Member is referring to clauses (*c*) and (*d*), I have already said in answer to a previous question that the current anomaly is under consideration."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know how long it will take to come to a conclusion in this matter as it causes much hardship to permanent lower division clerks? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I cannot say. My attention has been drawn to it only recently by this question."